

# OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2003/08/19 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100020061-9

25X1

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AGE COI ACP TOG TPE MRO TRI

PAGES

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CLASSIFICATION

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/DCI

10H12 740226

CIA/HISS

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR MCNAMIS.  
STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY. NMCC//ATTENTION  
CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR MR JOHN YEO.

25X1

FLD  
48

ITEM NO: 03

DATE: 26 FEB 74

SUBJECT: MILITARY STRIKE IN ASMARA, ETHIOPIA

25X1

REF:

ENLISTED MEN, NCO'S, AND SOME JUNIOR OFFICERS OF THE  
ETHIOPIAN SECOND DIVISION AND THE SECOND AIR GROUP IN ASMARA HAVE  
GONE ON STRIKE AND PLACED THEIR SENIOR OFFICERS UNDER RESTRAINT.  
THE ACTION STEMS MAINLY FROM PAY GRIEVANCES AND IS NOT AT  
PRESENT DESIGNED TO USURP CIVILIAN AUTHORITY. THE TROOPS HAVE  
NOT MOVED AGAINST THE PALACE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, AND THERE  
ARE NO REPORTS OF VIOLENCE.

DISSATISFACTION IS RIFE IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THE UNREST  
COULD EASILY SPREAD TO OTHER UNITS.

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DATE:  
ORIG:  
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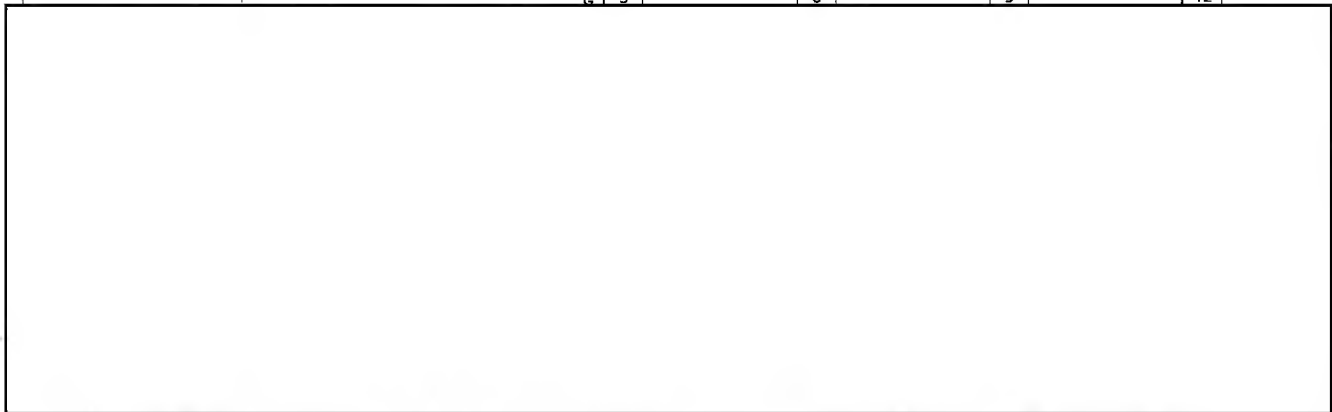
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ALTHOUGH NO CENTRAL DIRECTION IS EVIDENT IN THE ESPATE OF UNREST IN BOTH THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SECTORS IN ETHIOPIA, THERE HAS BEEN--FOR THE FIRST TIME--CONSIDERABLE COLLABORATION AND DIALOGUE BETWEEN DISAFFECTED ELEMENTS. STRIKING SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS HAVE HELD MEETINGS WITH SOLDIERS, AND THE STUDENTS HAVE CIRCULATED PAMPHLETS SUPPORTING THE ARMY'S DEMANDS.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN ASMARA WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON THE WILLINGNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN ADDIS ABABA TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE STRIKING TROOPS. THE GOVERNMENT EARLIER THIS WEEK TOOK STEPS TO END GENERAL PUBLIC UNREST BY ANNOUNCING STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF PRICE CONTROLS AND A REDUCTION IN GASOLINE PRICES. BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS WILL MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS DIFFICULT.

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THERE IS EVIDENCE HAILE SELASSIE IS RECEIVING DIVIDED COUNSEL  
ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION. WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE  
HIERARCHY URGING THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW PRIME MINISTER AND  
CABINET MORE COMMITTED TO SIGNIFICANT REFORM. E-R IMPDET. H

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